

LITTLE DOUBT

EVIDENCE THAT MARCH'S MEN
KILLED THE REBEL CHIEF.The Officer Shot From a Richly
Caparisoned Horse, Which
Bore Valuable Papers.

CARRIED AWAY WITH CARE

BODY TAKEN BY FILIPINOS AND
GUARDED ON THE RIVER.Aginaldo Known to Be in the Party
Attacked at Lagat, Surrounded
by Faithful Officers.

COMMISSION ON THE GROUND

RECEIVED AT MANILA WITH DUE
HONORS BY MACARTHUR.Judge Taft Makes a General State-
ment Concerning the Commission-
ers' Powers and Purposes.

VIGAN, Luzon, via Manila, June 3.—Major March, with his detachment of the Thirty-third Regiment, overtook what is believed to have been Aginaldo's party on May 19, at Lagat, about one hundred miles northeast of Vigan. The Americans killed or wounded an officer, supposed to be Aginaldo, whose body was removed by his followers.

Aginaldo had one hundred men, Major March one hundred and twenty-five. The American commander reached Laboagan, where Aginaldo had made his headquarters since March 6, on May 7. Aginaldo had fled seven hours before, leaving all the beaten trails and traveling through the forest along the beds of streams. Toward evening, May 19, Major March struck Aginaldo's outpost about a mile outside of Lagat, killing four Filipinos and capturing two. From the latter he learned that Aginaldo had camped there for the night. Although exhausted and half starved, Major March's men entered Lagat on the run.

They saw the insurgents scattering into the bushes or over the plateau. A thousand yards beyond the town, on the mountain side, the figures of twenty-five Filipinos, dressed in white, with their leader on a gray horse, were silhouetted against the sunset. The Americans fired a volley and saw the officer drop from his horse. His followers fled, carrying the body. The Americans, on reaching the spot, caught the horse, which was richly saddled.

Blood from a badly wounded man was on the animal and on the ground. The saddle bags contained Aginaldo's diary and some private papers, including proclamations. One of these was a declaration of independence, dated May 19, 1900, in which the Filipinos declared that they were no longer subject to the American occupation of the Philippines.

Major March, believing that the Filipinos had taken to the river, which is a tributary to the Chico, followed it for two days, reaching Tiao, where he learned that a party of Filipinos had descended the river May 20 on a raft with the body of a dead or wounded man on a litter, covered with palm leaves.

There Major March reviewed his command, shoeless and exhausted, and picked out twenty-four of the freshest men, with whom he beat the surrounding country for six days longer, but without finding any trace of the insurgents. The Americans pushed on and arrived at Apari, May 29. The officer shot was either Aginaldo or his adjutant, and as the horse was richly caparisoned it is a fair presumption that it was Aginaldo.

The soldiers of General Vigan, military Governor of northwestern Luzon, in early April captured an insurgent officer with papers revealing Aginaldo's whereabouts. General Vigan immediately organized for the pursuit, giving Major March a chance to finish the work begun in November. Major March left Candon May 1, hurrying north toward Laboagan, while Colonel Hare, with a battalion divided into two parts, started from Rangued, province of Abra, covering the trails westward. The garrisons in the Carayan valley were disposed in such a way as to guard the avenues of escape eastward. Spies heralded the approach of Major March with signal fires. On reaching Laboagan he apprehended a letter in Aginaldo's handwriting, the ink of which was hardly dry, addressed to an officer of guerrillas in the Filipino army, saying: "There having arrived this morning at Laboagan a hostile column from Bokoc, I have set out with all my force. My road has no fixed destination." This was signed "Colonel David," a sobriquet.

Aginaldo called at the Presidencia, from which he issued decrees and where his followers celebrated Easter with a banquet at a triangular table, when speeches were made eulogizing Gregorio del Pilar. That night Major March's men slept in the bamboo, resuming the advance in the morning and reaching Lagat, forty miles distant, in two days, although it was raining hard in the mountains all the time.

Aginaldo's papers are very important. They show that he took refuge in Isabela province, where he remained until he established himself at Laboagan, province of Abra, where he proposed to direct the rainy-season operations. Until recently he was ignorant of outside events, making no pretense of directing the insurrection, happy if, indeed, he might be able to keep alive among the hostile Igorrotes, who killed several of his followers.

COMMISSIONERS AT MANILA.

Judge Taft Makes a General State-
ment of Their Purposes.

MANILA, June 3.—The United States transport Hancock from San Francisco, April 17, arrived here this morning with the members of the Philippine commission. The members of General MacArthur's staff were on board the commissioners on board the Hancock. At noon the commissioners landed and drove to the palace, escorted by General MacArthur's staff, a band and two companies of the Twenty-sixth Infantry, with artillery. At the palace the commissioners were welcomed by General Mac-

HUMAN FLESH

EATEN BY DOGS AND VULTURES IN
THE FAMINE DISTRICT.Horrible Report of Conditions Made
by Louis Klopsch, Editor of the
Christian Advocate.

DEATH RATE NINETY PER CENT.

CHOLERA AND SMALLPOX TAKE
THOSE THE FAMINE LEAVES.One Town Had 3,000 Deaths in Four
Days, and Another Had 2,500
in the Same Period.

MORE MISSIONARIES KILLED

CHURCH OF ENGLAND WORKERS
THE LATEST VICTIMS IN CHINA.Strike Situation in Chaoan Results in
One Death and Many Injuries—
Interdicted Meeting Held.

BOMBAY, June 3.—Louis Klopsch, of New York, publisher of the Christian Herald, who arrived here May 14 and started on a tour of the famine stricken districts, has returned, after traveling through the most sorely stricken portions of the Bombay presidency, including Gujarat and Baroda. He makes the following statement regarding his observations:

"Everywhere I met the most shocking and revolting scenes. The famine camps have been swept by cholera and smallpox. Fugitives scattering in all directions and stricken in flight, were found dying in the fields and roadsides. The numbers at one relief station were increasing at the rate of ten thousand a day. At Godhera there were three thousand deaths from cholera within four days, and at Dohad 2,500 in the same period. The hospital death rate at Godhera and Dohad was 90 per cent.

The condition of the stricken simply beggars description. Air and water were impregnated with an intolerable stench of corpses. At Ahmedabad the death rate in the poorhouse was 10 per cent. Every day I saw new patients placed face to face with corpses. In every fourth cot there was a corpse. The thermometer read 115 in the shade. Millions of flies hovered around the uncleaned dysentery patients.

"I visited the smallpox and cholera wards at Viragam. All the patients were lying on the ground, there being no cots. Otherwise their condition was fit.

"I can fully verify the reports that vultures, dogs and jackals are devouring the dead. Dogs have been seen running about with children's limbs in their jaws.

"The government is doing its best, but the native officials are hopelessly and heartlessly inefficient. Between the famine, plague and cholera, the condition of Bombay presidency is now worse than it has been at any previous period in the nineteenth century. Whole families have been blotted out. The spirit of the people is broken, and there may be something still worse to come when the monsoon breaks."

HORRORS CANNOT BE PICTURED.

NEW YORK, June 3.—The Rev. Edward S. Hume, a missionary of the American board, who has seen twenty-five years service in Bombay, arrived last week direct from India. Mr. Hume has been connected with the Bombay branch of the India Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and was secretary of the Interdenominational Missionary Relief Committee. Speaking before the executive committee of the Committee of One Hundred on Indian Famine Relief, Mr. Hume said: "I have read the accounts of the famine published in the American papers; I have seen the pictures; I have seen the conditions in famine districts and I can assure you that the actual state of affairs is much more terrible than printed or pictured. And the worst of it is, that even if the June rains are entirely favorable, no relief can be expected till the crop is gathered in October."

This distress is not equal over the famine area. At its worst centers, as in Gujarat and Rajputana, conditions are dreadful beyond all description. Before leaving India I visited the government relief works at Ahmedabad and Ghodra, in Gujarat, and saw there awful sights that photographs are making familiar to people here.

The emaciated lay around the relief camps. Many were dying each day, for they were too far gone for food to save them. The dead and the dying lay side by side, the dead being gathered daily from the living, and buried.

"Magnificent work of relief is being carried on by the British government and by private agencies. The government now has on relief about 6,000,000 persons, a scheme of charity vast than was ever before conceived, is being carried out.

"Distress is greatest in the native states, where, on account of their independence, British control is least, and whose native rulers are more indifferent to human life. There are 688 native states, ranging in size from that of an American county to nearly the area of Italy. More than five hundred are in the famine district, and about half of these are in the Bombay presidency.

Knowing of the better conditions prevailing in territories under full control of the government of India, multitudes enter there from the native states and this adds to the problem the government has to deal with. Gujarat and Rajputana suffer most, partly because they are composed largely of native states. In the former, before I left, more than 1,000,000 cattle had perished out of a total of 1,200,000. Even under the most favorable climatic conditions vast areas must remain untilled for want of work cattle. The government is dealing largely with this question in preparing for the importation of cattle and by providing light hand plows. Till rains come and grass springs up the question of fodder for beasts is more difficult than that of grain for human sustenance. Corn must be furnished so that the fields may be sown.

"In the native states, particularly, are the missionaries, both American and European, doing heroic work. There are hundreds of brave, devoted men and women rescuers in the field. The extent of their

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HAWAIIAN AND PORTO RICAN BILLS
ENACTED AND IN FORCE.Much Discussion Concerning the Phil-
ippines and Cuba—Nicaraguan
Canal Bill—Other Measures.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The record of the first session of the Fifty-sixth Congress is now practically closed and it is possible to survey the important work it has accomplished during the last six months. It has been a busy Congress—the busiest, according to veteran officials, in many years. In some respects the work has been less exciting than that of the preceding Congress, which covered the dramatic period when war was declared against Spain, and also the period of reconstruction and treaty-making with Spain, following the successful closing of the war. But in work actually accomplished and started toward accomplishing the record of the present session stands well in comparison with the most energetic Congresses.

Our new territorial possessions have received much attention, and while there has been no definite action as to the Philippines or Cuba, a form of government and a means of raising revenue has been provided for Porto Rico, and a comprehensive territorial form of government has been given to Hawaii. The financial act has made important changes in the laws relating to the parity of metals, the bonded indebtedness, national banks and the security of the treasury by a gold reserve.

The Nicaraguan canal bill passed the House and is on the calendar of the Senate ready for attention when Congress reconvenes. The anti-trust bill is similarly advanced, though the anti-trust constitutional amendment has a defeat recorded against it. The Pacific cable measure has passed the Senate and is awaiting final action in the House. The exclusion of Brigham H. Roberts from a seat in the House, because of his polygamous status; the refusal of the Senate to admit Mr. Quay on the appointment of the Governor of Pennsylvania, and the sensational charges, investigation and development of the Senate in the case of Mr. Clark of Montana, have added some exciting personal phases to the session. Investigations have been prolific, including the inquiry into the Coeur d'Alene mining riots in Idaho, the various inquiries on polygamy and the amendment to the Military Academy bill making the commanding general of the army a lieutenant general and the adjutant general of the army a major general; also the amendment to the sundry civil bill, appropriating \$5,000,000 for the St. Louis exposition. Both of these bills are still pending. The naval appropriation bill adds two battleships, three armored cruisers, three protected cruisers and five submarine boats to the naval strength, and may include special legislation as to armor plate and a government plant. The other appropriation bills, in the main, carry the usual government supplies.

The Alaska code bill, giving a complete civil system of laws to the territory, has passed both houses and undoubtedly will become a law. Other measures which have passed one house or the other, but are still pending, includes those for the election of senators by the people; authorizing the President to appoint a committee to study commercial conditions in China and Japan; for increasing the efficiency of the army by making service in the staff corps temporary; extending the eight-hour law; increasing the annual allowance to the militia of the country from \$40,000 to \$1,000,000.

HOUSE READY TO ADJOURN.

Grant Oleomargarine Bill May Create
a Small Ripple.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—Conference reports on appropriation and other bills promise to occupy the attention of the House to the exclusion of everything else during the closing days of the session. Only one piece of general legislation seriously threatens the programme—the oleomargarine bill. The friends of this measure have been very insistent and have threatened in case the Senate does not agree to the resolution for final adjournment on Wednesday to hold up any amended resolution until they can have an opportunity to vote on their bill. A way out of the difficulty was suggested yesterday which may be put into operation tomorrow. To-morrow being suspension day, Mr. Tawney may be recognized to move that an hour on Tuesday be given to the oleomargarine bill. As this motion will require a two-thirds vote the powers that be are willing that the measure be considered if it can command such an overwhelming majority of the House.

There is a considerable number of disputed items on the appropriation bills which the House probably will settle by direct vote—the appropriation of \$5,000,000 for the St. Louis exposition and some less important items which the Senate placed upon the sundry civil bill; the armor plate provision and the paragraph relative to ocean and lake surveys; and the abolition of the sea coast for naval cadets in the naval appropriation bill and the Miles-Corbin amendment on the Military Academy bill.

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ALL HELD UP

NO PRESS DISPATCHES ALLOWED TO
COME FROM SOUTH AFRICA.Roberts Sends a Few Items About the
Past, but Has Little to Say
About the Present.

FAILURE OF BOER MOVEMENT

ATTEMPT TO DISCONCERT FIELD
MARSHAL WITHOUT EFFECT.Scots Guards and Grenadiers Suffered
Very Heavily in the Fight-
ing at Senekal.

CHAOS RULES AT PRETORIA

FOREIGNERS AND BURGHERS ALIKE
SEEKING NEUTRAL TERRITORY.Many Contradictory Stories from
Lourenso Marques—"Beau" Blake
Writes of the Irish Brigade.

LONDON, June 4, 4 a. m.—There is no direct news from Pretoria of later date than Thursday evening. General French's cavalry were then at Irene, eight miles south of Pretoria, and firing was heard there. Lord Roberts's messages about secondary operations elsewhere and the situation at Johannesburg, dated at Orange Grove, a farm four miles northeast of Johannesburg, show that on Saturday, at 9:10 p. m., he was twenty-five miles from Pretoria.

The correspondents with Lord Roberts have not got through a line about the operations after the occupation of Johannesburg. Official messages continue to come through; but press telegrams are held up, probably to avoid their giving even a hint as to what may be the pending operations. From the other side there filters through Lourenso Marques a mass of statements, some contradictory, others obviously improbable, all purporting to be facts.

Passengers arriving at Lourenso Marques, Saturday, direct from Pretoria, say that the capital was preparing to surrender when they left Thursday. The forts were dismantled. The Boer guard at Komatipoort searched all trains and turned back most of the fugitives, among them deserting foreigners, who were fleeing to reach neutral soil.

Immense Boer convoys of provisions are between Pretoria and Middleburg. Fifteen trains are sent daily to Machodop with supplies for Lydenburg. Pretoria is pictured by the refugees as in a state of indescribable confusion and chaos. The population is dismayed, and the British are attached here.

ATTACHES ARE LEAVING.

Some foreign attaches have arrived at Lourenso Marques to communicate with their governments for orders to leave, as they consider that organized war on the Transvaal side is at an end.

Flying around the Boers are reports that the British have been beaten back at Lindley, with heavy loss, that the main attack on Elandfontein failed, and Lord Roberts was forced to retire; that the railway has been cut behind him south of Vereeniging, and that a provision train has been captured. Without crediting any of the Boer bulletins, everything from the field of war, behind Lord Roberts, points to a great effort for the last week to paralyze his advance by a bold stroke from the eastward at the railway north of Bloemfontein. Unless four Boer columns were in a movement, seemingly with this objective, there was a command in front of General Brabant, near Ficksburg; another faced General Rundle, near Senekal; a third occupied Lindley and pressed toward the railway; and a fourth held Heilbron and pushed toward Kameeldrift. These operations, assuming them to have been independent, all appear to have failed.